

Kentucky has made remarkable progress in recent decades in improving public education for its citizenry. In fact since education reform began in 1990, the state's system of public education has become a model for school improvement throughout the nation.

For more information see [Kentucky Department of Education. www.education.ky.gov](http://www.education.ky.gov).

## **Advances as Measured by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2003**

- Kentucky's 4<sup>th</sup> grade readers scored three points higher than the national average (Kentucky: 219, U.S. average: 216)
- Kentucky eighth graders average science score of 266 was five points above the national average.
- Nearly 30% of Kentucky's 4<sup>th</sup> graders and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are at or above proficient in math and science.

## **More Kentucky High School Seniors are Planning for College**

- The percent of Kentucky graduates attending college increased from 48.8% in 2003 to 49.3% in 2004.
- The number of ACT test takers has grown substantially from 24,942 in 1990 to 29,581 in 2004.
- More Kentucky high school students took Advanced Placement (AP) exams and more scored at higher levels in 2004 than in 2003.

## **Kentucky's Progress in Ensuring "No Child is Left Behind"**

Data released in August, 2005 indicate that 74.1% - 868 of Kentucky's public schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. 868 public schools met 100% of their NCLB goals for AYP, while 304 schools did not. Of the 304 schools that did not make AYP, 193 made 80% or more of their goals. Statewide 64% - 16 of the 25 target goals were met.

## **Accountability and Improving Teacher Quality**

- Kentucky is one of 12 states earning A's in "standards and accountability" according to "Quality Counts 2005", a report of *Education Week*.

- Kentucky is one of 12 states that offer standards-based exams in all grade spans: elementary, middle, and high school-for each core subject. (*Quality Counts 2005*)
- Achievement data for Kentucky school districts is published on “school report cards”. Ratings are assigned to schools and low-performing schools are identified and receive help. The school also rewards “improved” or high-performing schools. (*Quality Counts 2005*) (See [www.education.ky.gov](http://www.education.ky.gov) to view report cards)
- Kentucky continues to score in the top five states for its efforts to improve teacher quality. (*Quality Counts 2005*)

## Technology

Kentucky's public education system ranks as a “technology leader” according to Education Week's *Technology Counts 2005*. [www.edweek.org](http://www.edweek.org).

Kentucky virtual learning links:

[Kentucky Virtual Adult Education](http://www.kyvae.org/) <http://www.kyvae.org/>

[Kentucky Virtual High School](http://www.kvhs.org/) <http://www.kvhs.org/>

[Kentucky Virtual Library](http://www.kyvl.org/) <http://www.kyvl.org/>

[Kentucky Virtual University](http://www.kcvu.org/home.htm) <http://www.kcvu.org/home.htm>

## Education Facts (2002-2003)

ACT average composite score (73% of 2003 graduates tested)	20.2 (2003)
SAT average composite score (12.6% state participation rate 2003)	Mean verbal – 554 Mean math - 552
Average per-pupil current expense spending	\$7,022
Average teacher salary	\$37,906
Number of days of schools per year	175
Number of home-schooled students	12,893
Number of public school districts	176
Number of public school students	650,227
Number of public school teachers	41,009
Number of students enrolled in non-public schools	71,812
Pupil-teacher ratio	15.5:1
Percentage of high school graduates attending college, vocational/technical schools, entering the military, employed or a combination of the above (2002)	95.67%
Percentage of networked schools with Internet access	100%

Students to modern high-performance computers ratio	5.8:1
State drop-out rate (01/02)	3.97%
Total state education budget	\$3.155 billion (FY 2004)

Source: Kentucky Department of Education.

## Postsecondary Education

Kentucky's postsecondary education system encompasses eight public universities, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), the Kentucky Virtual University, and numerous independent institutions. Kentucky's public agenda for postsecondary education has become a nationally recognized model of reform. To view the Public Agenda and other information on postsecondary education go to [www.cpe.state.ky.us](http://www.cpe.state.ky.us). The Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU) provides information on the state's private colleges and universities. Go to: <http://www.aikcu.org/>.

Enrollment in Kentucky's colleges and universities climbed for the sixth straight year in fall 2004 to a historic high of 231,612 students, according to the Council on Postsecondary Education.

Since postsecondary education reform began in 1998, enrollment has grown by 46,766 students, representing a 25.3 percent gain. The enrollment growth has been consistent among both public and independent sectors and across all levels, including two-year, four-year and graduate-level programs.

## Workforce Resources and Postsecondary Education

The [Kentucky Community and Technical College System](http://www.kctcs.net/) <http://www.kctcs.net/> KCTCS, the state's system of community and technical colleges is making higher education more accessible, more relevant, and more responsive to citizen, employer, and community needs. KCTCS comprises 16 districts with 62 campuses open or under construction. The community and technical colleges of KCTCS provide accessible and affordable education and training through academic and technical associate degrees; diploma and certificate programs in occupational fields; pre-baccalaureate education; adult, continuing and developmental education; customized training for business and industry; and distance learning.

Employers have access to the full range of resources and expertise provided by colleges in KCTCS. The system's community and economic development specialists coordinate services such as analysis of training needs and delivery of employment assessments and workforce training.

The centerpiece of KCTCS economic development efforts is the Kentucky WINS (Workforce Investment Network System) program. Through KY WINS, colleges in KCTCS provide training for employees of new and expanding businesses, and assist communities in coordinating the

delivery of economic development services. For more information go to: [www.kctcs.edu/workforcenetwork](http://www.kctcs.edu/workforcenetwork).

The [Department for Workforce Development's](http://workforce.ky.gov/) <http://workforce.ky.gov/> mission is to connect Kentucky to employment, workforce information, education, and training. Key services include the departments of Employment and Training, Vocational Rehabilitation, Office for the Blind, and the Office of Career and Technical Education.

The [Office of Career and Technical Education](http://kytech.ky.gov/) (OCTE) <http://kytech.ky.gov/> administers 53 secondary technical schools (area technology centers) known collectively as the Kentucky Tech system of schools. A partnership between KCTCS and Ky Tech allows students to earn college credit by taking high school technical courses, providing a seamless path from secondary to postsecondary education.

Kentucky Tech's primary goal is to provide technical education and skills training to secondary (high school) students. They also play a role in partnering with local communities in economic development and training efforts by offering such services as customized training programs and identification of training needs for employers. For information call: 1-800-223-5632 or go to [kytech.ky.gov/businessandindustryindex](http://kytech.ky.gov/businessandindustryindex).

The [Workforce Investment Board](http://dtr.state.ky.us/), <http://dtr.state.ky.us/> that oversees plans for the appropriation of federal training dollars, consists of a majority membership of business and industry representatives. This representation ensures that training programs are designed to produce a workforce capable of supplying Kentucky's businesses with skilled workers.

The [Bluegrass State Skills Corporation's](http://www.thinkkentucky.com/bssc) (BSSC) basic purpose is to improve and promote employment opportunities for the residents of the Commonwealth through training grants and investment credits for skills training programs which create partnerships with business and industry who absorb a share of program costs. For more information call (502) 564-2021 or see <http://www.thinkkentucky.com/bssc>.

[Kentucky Adult Education](http://adulted.state.ky.us) - <http://adulted.state.ky.us>

Kentucky Adult Education's Associates for Workforce Education work with employers to provide basic workplace essential skills training which upgrades employee skills. A state income tax credit is provided an employer for a portion of the paid release time given to an employee to study for the General Educational Development (GED) test. The tax credit is calculated at half of the employee's hourly salary for release time, up to a maximum of \$1,250. For questions or further information, contact Kentucky Adult Education at 502/564-5114.

## Kentucky Colleges and Universities

	2004 Enrollment
Alice Lloyd College*	593
Asbury College*	1,284

Kentucky Colleges and Universities, continued	2004 Enrollment
Ashland Community & Technical College	3,905
Bellarmine University*	2,879
Berea College*	1,556
Big Sandy Community & Technical College	4,673
Bluegrass Community & Technical College District	12,361
Bowling Green Technical College	2,511
Brescia University*	709
Campbellsville University*	2,236
Centre College*	1,069
Cumberland College*	1,744
Eastern Kentucky University	16,183
Elizabethtown Community & Technical College	4,941
Gateway Community & Technical College	2,624
Georgetown College*	1,834
Hazard Community & Technical College	3,802
Henderson Community College	1,986
Hopkinsville Community College	3,104
Jefferson Community & Technical College District	13,846
Kentucky Christian College*	600
Kentucky State University	2,335
Kentucky Wesleyan College*	663
Lindsey Wilson College*	1,846
Madisonville Community College	3,712
Maysville Community & Technical College	2,785
Mid-Continent College*	815
Midway College*	1,271
Morehead State University	9,293
Murray State University	10,128
Northern Kentucky University	13,921
Owensboro Community & Technical College	4,896
Pikeville College*	1,066
Saint Catharine College*	681
Somerset Community College	5,850
Southeast Community & Technical College	4,519
Spalding University*	1,684
Sullivan University*	4,828
Thomas More College*	1,460
Transylvania University*	1,114
Union College*	1,047
University of Kentucky	26,545
University of Louisville	21,725
Western Kentucky University	18,513
West Kentucky Community & Technical College	6,475

\*Independent

Source: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. <http://cpe.ky.gov/>

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